

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 07013 281615Z

43

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 IO-14 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 AID-20 PC-10 AEC-11 AECE-00 ACDA-19 SCI-06

FEA-02 SAJ-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 DRC-01 /198 W

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R 281549Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1696

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 7013

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: NGDS

TAGS: TECHN, PFOR, PARM, IN, PK

SUBJECT: INDO-PAK RELATIONS IN WAKE OF INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST

1. POL COUNSELOR DISCUSSED IMPACT OF INDIAN NUCLEAR TEST ON
INDO-PAK RELATIONS WITH MEA JOINT SECRETARY (PAKISTAN) CHIB
MAY 28. MOST INTERESTING REMARK BY CHIB WAS THAT HE BELIEVED
GOI WOULD BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS WITH PAKISTAN CONCRETE AND
SPECIFIC MEANS OF ASSURING PAKS THAT INDIANS NOT DEVELOPING
NUCLEAR WEAPONS FOR USE AGAINST PAKISTAN. IN REPLY TO
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PAGE 02 NEW DE 07013 281615Z

QUESTION WHY THIS POINT HAD NOT ALREADY BEEN MADE TO PAKISTAN

AS INDUCEMENT BOTH TO NEGOTIATIONS AND TO EASING PAKISTANI CONCERN, CHIB SAID INDIANS PREFERRED TO WAIT UNTIL ISSUE COULD BE DISCUSSED IN CONTEXT OF GENERAL IMPROVEMENT OF INDO-PAK RELATIONS. HE DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON WHAT MIGHT BE CONTENT OF SUCH CONCRETE AND SPECIFIC ASSURANCES, SAYING THIS WOULD ALSO HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN DETAIL LATER. POLCOUNSELOR TOLD CHIB HE FOUND SUGGESTION OF SUCH AN INDIAN APPROACH INTRIGUING AND OFFERED PERSONAL THOUGHT IT WAS ONE WORTH PURSUING SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.

2. OTHERWISE CHIB THOUGHT PAK RESPONSE PRETTY MUCH AS HE WOULD HAVE ANTICIPATED. INDIANS SENT OFF CABLE YESTERDAY TO ISLAMABAD ASKING PAKS TO CONFIRM WHETHER JUNE 10 DATE STILL ON FOR BILATERAL POST-TELECOMMUNICATIONS-TRAVEL TALKS IN PAKISTAN. THIS DATE AGREED TO BY PAKS AND COMMUNICATED TO INDIANS JUST PRIOR TO INDIAN TEST. INDIANS ARE ALSO STILL WAITING FOR BHUTTO REPLY TO MRS. GANDHI'S POST-TEST LETTER (NEW DELHI 6829). PAKS HAVE TOLD THEM THEY ARE STILL CONSIDERING REPLY.

3. CHIB ASKED ABOUT US INFO ON CHINESE REACTION TO INDIANS TEST AND TO EFFECT ON SINO-PAK RELATIONS. POLCOUNSELOR DUCKED, PLEADED IGNORANCE AND SUGGESTED EVERYONE WAS PROBABLY STILL EVALUATING AND CONSIDERING.

4. CHIB SUMMED UP BY SAYING THAT, IF PAKISTAN WANTED TO CALL OFF WHOLE TREND OF MODERATING SUBCONTINENTAL RELATIONS, INDIAN TEST MIGHT PROVIDE PRETEXT FOR THEM TO DO THIS. AT THIS POINT, HE WAS MODERATELY ENCOURAGED BY FACT THAT PAKISTAN HAD NOT CALLED SIMLA AGREEMENT OR SUBSEQUENT INDO-PAK DISCUSSIONS INTO SERIOUS QUESTION IN THEIR CRITICISM OF THE NUCLEAR TEST.
MOYNIHAN

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